

CLAIMS

1. A powder paint composition comprising at least
 - (a) a thermosetting polymer having functional groups capable of reacting with β -hydroxyalkylamide units
 - (b) a compound comprising β -hydroxyalkylamide units and
 - (c) a deceleration agent, capable of reversibly blocking the functional groups of polymer (a),
 wherein the deceleration agent is present in an amount sufficient to block at least 9 % of the total amount of functional groups of polymer (a).
2. A powder paint composition according to Claim 1 characterised in that the polymer (a) is a carboxylic acid functional polymer or an anhydride functional polymer.
3. A powder paint composition according to any one of Claims 1-2, characterised in that the deceleration agent (c) is a compound according to formula (III) and/or (IV):

$$\text{YR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3 \quad ((\text{III}))$$

or

$$(\text{YR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4)^+\text{X}^- \quad (\text{IV})$$

 wherein:

Y is N or P,

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 or R^4 are independently of each other, substituted or unsubstituted carbon chains with 1-50 carbon atoms in the main chain and

X^- is halide.
4. A powder paint composition according to Claim 3 characterised in that the deceleration agent (c) is a compound according to formula (III).
5. A powder paint composition according to any one of Claims 3-4 characterised in that Y is N.
6. A powder paint composition according to any one of Claims 3-5 characterised in that R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are unsubstituted carbon chains.
7. A powder paint composition according to any one of Claims 1-6 characterised in that the deceleration agent is octyldimethylamine, decyldimethylamine, dodecyldimethylamine, tetradecyldimethylamine, hexadecyldimethylamine, octadecyldimethylamine, hydrogenated tallow alkyl)-dimethylamine and/or hexadecyldimethylamine.
8. A process for the preparation of a powder paint composition according to any one of Claims 1-7 comprising at least the steps of:

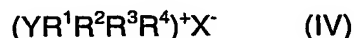
- 5 a) producing a polymer (a) having functional groups capable of reacting with β -hydroxyalkylamide units at the processing temperature T_p ;
 b) adding a deceleration agent (c) to the polymer at temperature T_a , wherein T_a is equal to or lower than T_p but higher than the T_g or T_m of the polymer, in an amount sufficient to block at least 9% of the functional groups of the polymer (a) capable of reacting with β -hydroxyalkylamide units.

9. A process according to Claim 8, wherein the deceleration agent is added before the polymer is cooled down to below its T_g or T_m .

10 10. The use of a tertiary compound according to formula (III) and/or (IV):



or



wherein:

15 Y is N or P

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 or R^4 are independently of each other, substituted or unsubstituted carbon chains with 1-50 carbon atoms in the main chain and

X^- is halide

20 as a deceleration agent in a powder paint composition comprising a β -hydroxyalkylamide compound.

11. A process for curing a powder paint composition according to any one of Claims 1-7 or a powder paint composition obtained by the process according to any one of Claims 8-9 whereby the powder paint composition is first applied to a substrate and then cured.

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